GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:76
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010
FOODGRAIN ALLOTMENT UNDER OMSS
Sudhakaran Shri K.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has intervened in making available foodgrains in the market through the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS);

(b) if so, its impact on prices during the last two years and the current year;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaints regarding irregularities in release, off take and distribution of foodgrains allotted to the States under OMSS;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the number and nature of complaints received, State-wise; and

(e) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c) (d) & (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.76 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 02.03.2010 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): Yes, Madam. In order to check inflationary trends in wheat and rice, the Government in 2009-10 decided to allocate 20 lakh tonnes of wheat and 10 lakh tonnes of rice to State Governments for distribution to retail consumers and to small processors of wheat like chakkies, bakeries etc., whose monthly consumption of wheat is less than 30 tonnes. In addition to above, Government has also allocated 20.18 lakh tones of wheat for tender sale to bulk consumers by FCI. In view of poor pace of sale of wheat by State Governments to small processors, on 16.2.2010 the Government has allocated 5 lakh tonnes of wheat to FCI for tender sale to small processors.

(b): Sale under OMSS has increased supply of wheat in the open market and it has arrested inflationary trends in food economy.

(c)&(d): Government has received complaint that in Kerala wheat meant for retail consumers was distributed to bulk users.

(e): FCI has withheld approximately 12,000 MTs of wheat allotted by State Government to bulk users even though it was meant for retail consumers/small processors.